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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Attorney Docket No.: 015389-002600US
Client Reference No.: 018/195P1

PATENT

By: *Maisie C. Livengood*

Maisie C. Livengood



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas R. Cech et al.

Application No.: 08/912,951

Filed: August 14, 1997

For: HUMAN TELOMERASE
CATALYTIC SUBUNIT:
DIAGNOSTIC AND
THERAPEUTIC METHODS

Examiner: Janet Andres, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1646

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 27, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A 3 month Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed herewith, extending the period of response from May 27, 2001 until August 27, 2001. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 46-81 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

83. (New) A mammalian cell that contains a recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a human telomerase reverse transcriptase (hTERT) protein, variant, or fragment having telomerase catalytic activity when complexed with a telomerase

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